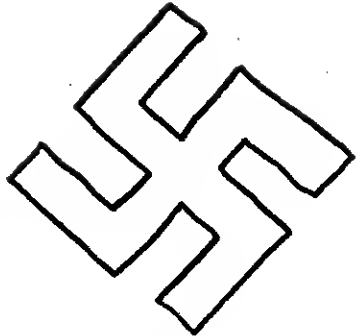


MEIN KAMPF



MIGHT MAKE EASIER READING THAN THIS ISSUE 9 OF

The BRUTUS BULLETIN

Et tu, Brute

The BRUTUS BULLETIN is a newsletter of postal DIPLOMACY brought to you as often as my players will permit, by none other than John Michalski, 913 NE Sixth Street, Moore, Oklahoma, 73160. No calls. It is available from me for \$2 for now until December 1, 1978, at which time further issues will cost more, unless you are an original player in Game #1 and still active therein. It's still a good deal even without so being. Whatever back issues are left are available gratis to subbers. Trades aren't really encouraged. DIPLOMACY is a game invented by Alan Calhamer no less, and available (& copyrighted by) the Avalon Hill Co, Baltimore, MD 21214. THE BRUTUS BULLETIN, referred to as the BULLUS BRUTETIN in portions of Canada, is dedicated to running three games of postal Diplomacy the way the editor/GM wishes all his OWN games were run: fast and cheap. For your money, you're promised only fast adjudications, nothing more. However, since I also like filler, there's as much of that as 14¢ will allow me to send, subject to availability of both the filler and the 14¢. Players, readers, and anyone finding this in a rain-glutted gutter in Santa Monica are invited and encouraged to send in stuff similar to the drivel found within, which is an honest way of saying that contributions are encouraged.



JOHN'S NOTES

Maybe it's the weather, but whatever the problem is, there sure hasn't been as many letters of late as there used to be. Perhaps you're all getting tired of reading them and/or embarrassed at seeing them in print? Well, I've filled the gap for now with crud of my own, so we sure have a full issue again this time. If weight permits, I'll include the second of the three flyers TSR Hobbies sent me as a back cover this time. Also, as a relief to Fred Winter and Mark Berch, I now have permission from Conservative Digest to run excerpts from there, so, something for at least those two to look forward to (✓). Perhaps letters will pick up after my apparent foul-up on last seasons' adjudications in KS. There, I inadvertently deleted the Austrian order of "A VIE S A Tyo-Tri". It didn't make enough difference for anyone to bother mentioning, at least to date (March 30); even the Austrian just went on to order it as he chose for this season. That's when I caught it, looking for "NSU"s. Fortunately, no delays were necessary, since the only units I felt it could possibly affect couldn't coordinate, and all the extra time in the world wouldn't change the chances of anything. All players immediately concerned were contacted by phone Wednesday night (exc. Ger., next day), so with 5 days to go after that, should be no problems. Still, I expect to pick up some flak from somebody, most likely. Bad thing is, I'll probably deserve it! I check for those things; it was just a plain bust, is all. I'm reminded of the GM's rules that appeared as a humorous item in a recent LIES, DECEIT, & NEFARIOUS SCHEMES.....maybe I'll run them with any hate mail next issue.

GOOD NEWS Or, is it? Anyhow, next issue will contain a SURVEY, but, unlike your usual poop, will contain UNIQUE poop, as befits BRUTUS BULLETIN. I'm toying with the chances of making it a postpaid response. (That darn Jerry Jones pulled a fast one on me by running membership cards, very nicely printed, in HIS zine; now, in the invariable one-upsmanship of the publishing business, I need to do something clever, too.) Actually, the main reason is that I need to get everyone's middle initial for the hobby record-keepers, and if I just asked, I might get 4 responses. But, if I put it into a survey, give room for orders on the same sheet, and include a reply envelope (NOT Business Reply!), maybe I'll get more than half. Maybe. Or maybe just a stick of Juicy Fruit gum from some character...? Well, we'll see. The one thing I did want to say now is that if any of YOU have any questions you think you'd like to see on it, let me know in time to include it. I'll print all the results, anonymously as per respondents, of course.

Unless a whole slew comes in at the last minute, there won't be much press this issue. Therefore, whatever is on the game page will be it, and to save time, the reverse will probably be blank on at least one of them. So don't think you've been cheated or are missing something if you find that to be the case.

Finally, glad to see so many of you are using the freebie stickers. Hopefully they're in use between a lot of YOU as well as simply to me...

NOTE TO BOB SERGEANT: We're in our fourth day of 80 degree weather here out of five; You should have stuck to your plan to move south!



1977 K N
FALL 1904

SUMMER: English F Nth r LONDON

POPE CONVERTS ALBANIA AT HIGH COST.
HUNS PULL EVEN WITH FROGS AS CZAR
TAKES DRIVERS SEAT. HAPSBURG TO
DETERMINE MID-GAME? WILL GOD SAVE
THE QUEEN?????

AUSTRIA (KASSEL): A Alb-GRE; A SER S A Alb-Gre: A TRI-Ven

ENGLAND (SCOTT): F LON-Eng; F CLY-Edi

FRANCE (DITTER): F ENG-Bel; A PIC S F Eng-Bel; A Bel-Ruh/ann./;
F LVP H; F Mid-WES; A BUR-Mar; A YOR S RUSSIAN
F Nwg-Edi

GERMANY (WORKMAN): F NTH & A RUH S A Hol-Bel; A Hol-BEL;
A MUN-Bur; F DEN S F Nth

ITALY (KELLY): A PIE-Mar; A ROM-Ven; A Gre S F Ion-Alb/ann./; F Ion-ALB; F ADR S F Ion-Alb

RUSSIA (McELVANEY): F Nwg-EDI; F NWY H; F SKA-Den; F ARM S A Sev; A SEV S F Arm; A UKR S
A Rum; A RUM S AUSTRIAN A Ser

TURKEY (HUESTON): A BUL S AUSTRIAN A Alb-Gre; F BLA S F Ank-Arm; F ANK-Arm; F Aeg-ION

1904

Austria: Home, Srb, Gre	5	2 ann, build two
England: LON Edi Edi	1	Remove one
France: Home, Bel , Lon , Spa, Por, LVP	6	1 ann, even
Germany: Home, Den, Hol, BEL	6	Build one
Italy: Home, Tun, Gre	4	1 ann., even
Russia: Home, Rum, Swe, Nwy, EDI	8	Build one
Turkey: Home, Bul	<u>4</u> 34	Even

Deadline for Winter, 1904, and Spring, 1905, will be my mail received here MONDAY, APRIL 17, 1978. Spring orders may be made conditional on the builds, with the usual warning.

I don't know how it looks out there, but from the front of this bus, I'd have to say this is still the tensest game I've personally observed. Lots of excitement still possible in at least the next two game years. I look forward to seeing what develops next in every corner of the board, and I hope all of you are enjoying this half as much as I am. Nice to think we'll be in 1907 before summer school starts, isn't it?

PRESS is combined with that of KS on reverse.

77KN PRESS

Fall 1282

Merciful Allah, from whom all blessings rain, the campaign has been a success. While the army was off fighting in Serbia the peasants have destroyed all of the mongrel pups in the country. Though the army had to return to its winter camp the army rejoiced to see all the vermin gone.

The willing Bulgarian peasants also worked had this spring to clean and renovate my palace. They did their work so willingly that only one thousand soldiers were needed to keep them at their work. It is a credit to my genius and planning that my girls and I have such a wonderful harem to live it up in.

ITALY to GERMANY: I agree.

77KS PRESS

LONDON: "Armchair Analysts" here have been busy this past week entertaining French troops on holiday in England.

PARIS: I was told by Turkey (Lee Kendter) that Germany and Italy were going to combine an attack on me. That is why I went to Burgundy with support. But, Lee remains in form and naturally stirs the kettle. Oh, such foolish people us mortals be. Sorry Craig, I will resume with the attack on Italy. Lee, you'll get yours.

TO PARIS Of course I can be trusted, but this war is over much more quickly if we stop mourning over English corpses and bury him for good. This can only be done if all past affronts are put aside. Later, we can go at it if you're still so inclined. But get ENGLAND FIRST!

HOLLAND : "...exposed..." he said, "because I know Germany can be trusted. This is not so with English Pig-dogs". Ast's reverence over Regent Reges is touching. Perhaps Ast's next line should be "We, who are about to die, salute you!"

BERNE, SWITZERLAND Turkish plots have failed. Efforts to break up the Franco-German alliance have failed due to trust and a strong bond between these two great powers. Investors here have invested heavily in Franco-German industries, in view of the obviously certain victory they will achieve. Some have speculated over whether Turkish actions indicate an alliance with England. Other countries should note this possibility and consider it. This cannot be allowed. The elimination of Italy will be the first step in meeting this threat. English fleets will soon run out of oil and free German units to join this attack with La Belle France.

1977 K S
FALL 1903

SUMMER: Turkish A Bul r CON

HAPSBURGS WALK AWAY FROM GAINS AS
POPE BLUNDERS INTO A GAIN. RUSSIA
RESURGENT!

AUSTRIA:(PRICE): F Alb-ION; F ADR C A Tri-Apu;
A Tri-APU; A Vie-BUD; A Bul-GRE;
A SER S A Bul (OTM)

ENGLAND (HUNT): F SKA & F NTH S A Swe-Den; A ~~SWE~~-Den;
A LVP H; F ENG-Iri

FRANCE (GRABAR): F MAO-Eng; F IRI S A Wal-Lvp; A WAL-Lvp; A Bur-MAR; A Mar-SPA

GERMANY (REGES): F HEL & F BAL S F Den; F DEN S RUSSIAN F Fin-Swe; A HOL S A Bel;
A BEL S A Hol; A TYO-Ven

ITALY (SHAFFER): F WES-Mid; A Ven-TRI; A PIE-Ven

RUSSIA (KASSEL): F FIN-Swe; A Mos-SEV; A Lvn-WAR

TURKEY (KENDTER, Jr): F AEG & F RUM S A Con-Bul; A Con-BUL; A Arm-SMY; A UKR S F Rum

1903

Austria: Tri , Bud, Vie, Ser, Gre, Tri	4	Remove two
England: Home, Nwy, Swe	5	Even
France: Home, Spa, Por	5	Even
Germany: Home, Bel, Hol, Den	6	Even
Italy: Home, Tun, TRI	5	1 ann., build two
Russia: StP, Mos, War, SEV	4	Build one
Turkey: Home, Bul, RUM, Set	5	Even
	34	

DEADLINE for Winter, 1903, and Spring, 1904, will be my mail received here MONDAY, APRIL 17, 1978. PRESS is on reverse of KN, facing this page. Always remember that when submitting conditional orders, designate one set as "all other cases" to avoid an NMR. Speaking of NMRs, my oversight last time permitted calls this time, which saved the skin of one of you. Otherwise we'd have seen a dramatic shift on the board. Right now we face 1904 with about as even a matching as is possible: No one out, 2 centers separate the largest & smallest; one center separates the 3 moderate Western powers; 1 center difference between the four smaller Eastern powers.....Which of you will tilt the board?

This, folks, is what you've been waiting for!

BRUTUS 3 Winter, 1900

AUSTRIA: August Lukow, 7475 Belvue Drive,
Jenison, Michigan 49428

ENGLAND: Steve Hueston, 1018 South 242 Street,
Kent, Washington 98031

FRANCE: David Hunt, 538 Lexington,
East Lansing, Michigan 48823

GERMANY: Randy Christopher, 15170 Columbet Avenue,
San Martin, CA 95046

ITALY: Eric Kirchner, P O Box 4076,
USAF Academy, Colorado 80841

RUSSIA: Rick Kassel, 984 Erie Street Road,
Macedon, NY 14502

TURKEY: Galen Workman, 3531 E Wilton St. #C,
Long Beach, CA 90804

Spring, 1901

THIRD BRUTUS GAME NOT TO BE OUTDONE IN ACTION!

AUSTRIA (LUKOW): A VIE-Gal; A Bud-SER; F Tri-ALB

ENGLAND (HUESTON): F Lon-ENG; F Edi-NTH; A Lvp-YOR

FRANCE (HUNT): F Bre-PIC; A Par-BUR; A MAR S A Par-Bur

GERMANY (CHRISTOPHER): A MUN-Bur; A Ber-KIE; F Kie-DEN

ITALY (KIRCHNER): A Ven-TYO; A Rom-VEN; F Nap-ION

RUSSIA (KASSEL): F StPsc-GOB; F Sev-RUM; A Mos-UKR; A WAR-Gal

TURKEY (WORKMAN): F Ank-CON; A Con-BUL; A SMY H

Well, there was no press submitted this time, but that may change in view of the assorted things that seem to be underway from the moves above. FALL, 1901, will be due here on MONDAY, APRIL TENTH. Actual deadline is my mail received here that day. Winter will be combined with S'02, and remember that a seperation requires a majority vote.

I'd meant to run this later, but had a last-minute opening, so here it is. The reason there are no duplicate mailings with #3 is that this is sent first class, unlike BB. I WILL PRINT WINTER 01 BUILDS IN THE NEXT BB IF YOU FOLKS CAN GET THEM IN RIGHT AFTER FALL MOVES REACH YOU, SO YOU MIGHT WANT TO PLAN AHEAD A BIT....

I suggest provisional builds be sent with the fall orders, but I won't run them unless I have all of yours

CARTER'S UNIVERSAL VOTER REGISTRATION KIT



USE ONE OR ALL PARTS AS NEEDED

CUT ALONG DOTTED LINES

ENABLES YOU TO VOTE 4 OR 5 TIMES
IN THE SAME ELECTION

Worker Sues Company Over Polish Jokes

DETROIT (UPI) — Edmund Szymczyk says he is proud to be Polish and tired of hearing Polish jokes at work. So he's suing his company for \$500,000.

The 52-year-old office worker filed the lawsuit against the Ford Motor Co. for failing to stop the gags and one-liners perpetrated by his colleagues over the past decade.

"I'm proud of being Polish," the 5-foot-2 immigrant's son said Wednesday. "And I've tried for years to think of a way to remedy the situation. But I just can't stomach it anymore."

"I've prayed to the Lord and asked why they do it. Why do I have to go through this to make a living?"

In his suit, Szymczyk cited several examples of gags his fellow employees have put on or in his desk. He says the barbs have not only hurt him personally but hampered his job performance.

Szymczyk, a parts specifications writer, said he has been with the company for 25 years but has not received a promotion in 20 years. In the past two years, he said, superiors have filed poor work-performance ratings on him.

"How can I concentrate on my work?" he asked. "I'm being constantly harassed."

Ford officials had no comment on the suit.

Unfailing Law of Second-Ratedness:

1. Never be first to do anything.
2. Under controlled conditions, organisms do as they damned well please.
3. All things being equal, you are bound to lose.
4. The planning for the summer "quiet period" must be based on the actual time after July 4 and the onset of Labor Day, which is two weeks.

Then there were the two Aggies* who walked into the used car lot and asked for a used car for around \$50. The salesman had just taken in a camel in trade on a Cadillac he'd sold to a rich Iranian student here to protest the Shah's rule, and the salesman thought he had a perfect chance to unload it. "Now this camel may not be what you first had in mind, but it gets great mileage, never needs new tires, only needs water once a week, and even knows to stay in it's lane, go on green, and stop on red. Can't beat that!" So the two Aggies took it. A few weeks later, the same salesman saw these two standing at a busstop. Curious as to the fate of the camel he'd sold them, he went back and asked its fate. "Well, he worked out just fine, just like you said", answered the first. Then the second continued: "But one day last week we were stopped at a red light and a car pulled up beside us. 'Look at those two assholes on that camel', said a passenger. So we got down to look for ourselves, the light turned green, and the camel left without us".

*An aggie is a person at or from an 'agricultural' college, such as Texas A&M or Oklahoma State University. What would be a 'pollock' joke in the north becomes an 'aggie' joke around here. If you want to get any contribution of your own printed in BRUTUS BULLETIN, it had better be worded as an 'aggie' joke before I get it!

CHEMICAL ANALYSIS OF WOMEN

SYMBOL: Wo (sometimes Wow)

ACCEPTED ATOMIC WEIGHT: About 112 pounds. (per mole?)

OCCURRENCE: Found wherever man exists. Seldom in the free state.

PHYSICAL PROPERTIES: Boils at nothing, and may freeze at any minute. Melts when properly treated. Very bitter if not well used.

CHEMICAL PROPERTIES: Very active. Possesses great affinity for gold, silver, platinum, and precious stones. Violent reaction when left alone. Able to absorb great amounts of expensive food. Turns green when placed beside a better looking specimen. Ages rapidly.

USES: Highly ornamental. Useful as a tonic in acceleration of low spirits, etc. Equalizes distribution of wealth. Is probably the most powerful income reducing agent known.

CAUTION: Highly explosive when in inexperienced hands!

Everything cometh
to he who waiteth,
so long as he
who waiteth
worketh like hell
while he
waiteth.



Best Western Inn - LBJ

8051 LBJ Freeway at Coit Road
DALLAS, TEXAS 75251
(214) 234-2431

WEEKENDING IN DALLAS

Late in February, the wife and I decided (really, she decided) that we needed to get away from it all (meaning the kids) and go do something by ourselves for a change. We opted for the three hour drive down I35 to Big D, and wound up having a trip which turned out better than I'd expected at first. Now, lots of you will likely think, 'hell, I'll never be in Dallas; what do I care about restaurants and houses and whatnot there?' Well, if you don't like it, send in some filler of your own so I won't have to do these articles up!

Coming in Friday afternoon, we opted to stay at the Best Western at the north central side of town, primarily because I knew where the I620 loop was and how to more or less intercept Hiway 75N, the junction of which was the location of this particular Best Western. I sure didn't pick it for it's name, for I view LBJ as a criminal and bastard of the first magnitude. Be that as it may, we went there and checked in, saw the room, decided (guess who again) to pay extra for the king sized bed in some other room, and settled in. The room and building were only adequate, compared to what I'd come to expect from other Best Westerns, but we weren't planning to spend much time out of bed in that motel anyhow, so what the heck. Anyhow, the first evening we went to a restaurant her brother had recommended called Baby Doe's Matchless Mine. It was impressive, but, in a word, wierd. It's located on Harry Hines Blvd (which I couldn't remember the name of, so I usually called it Heinrich Himmler Blvd--pretty close) and will take you by surprise. It is in an industrial area, and as you drive up to a RR overpass, there's a sign and two driveways. Only after you pull in do you really realize you face a VERY steep uphill drive. The yokel pickup trucks would never make it, which is perhaps one of the reasons they built it up there. Once you find that the Thunderbird will go on up without bouncing its tail in the occasional dips, its not too bad a drive at all. Don't try to spot a parking spot; the road's too tricky, and at the top of the hill you learn that they have valets to park it for you in any case. Also, their personnel are well trained enough to not let you hear them screeching any tires as they park them and bring them back. The exterior decor is that of an old frontier mine, reasonably well done. Inside, there are some long, dark, narrow, and winding halls to accentuate the 'mine' feeling, right down to tracks set into the floor. You're first led to the 'lounge' for drinks while you wait for a table to open. Of course there are probably tables open almost all the time, but it is much to their advantage to have you drink for a while anyhow, so you're seated, given a bowl of popcorn, and wait long enough to just about finish two drinks before being called. In this case, it wasn't too bad, for we went through three drinks for about \$5, which isn't really too bad for this part of the country at all, and while Claudine's Mai Tai was too strong, the vodka Collins were good. The popcorn was a little burned, but as I approached the end of the second drink, I didn't much notice anymore. Then we were called and led upstairs to the restaurant area. It's always fun south of a line from Kansas City-St Louis to give people a Polish name and let them try to pronounce it, but in this case, they didn't really do too badly when we were called. A big plus

for them was that they did try, something not everyone will do here, and didn't do too badly at that when they did. The food was excellent, right down to the salad which had all sorts of stuff in it, unlike your lettuce-&-dressing stuff found at the local staekhouse. I ordered the "genuine buffalo steak", but they were out of that. I settled for the filet, which came out smaller than I expected, but was still more than I could eat. (Gave it a good try, though.) I think Claudine had the shrimp, but I'm not sure anymore. Then came dessert, which was also impressive. I ordered cheesecake, and usually, any cheesecake you order will be one tablespoon larger than a piece you'd get free in the grocery store if they were giving away free samples to get you to try some of their cake. Here, however, they gave you a piece that I considered big enough to eat, which is pretty darn big. The berries poured over it were also nice. The only bad thing I could say about it was that the pats of butter were a little too hard to spread easily over the hot bread they gave you, wrapped in a basket in small loaves. The whole visit would have been excellent, but I made the mistake of staying in the bathroom too long on the way out. That left Claudine in their gift shop waiting, which cost me almost \$6 for a large "Baby Doe's Matchless Mine" T-shirt. I should have waited and gone to a gas station, where it would only have cost me a roadmap or a can of Dr Pepper.

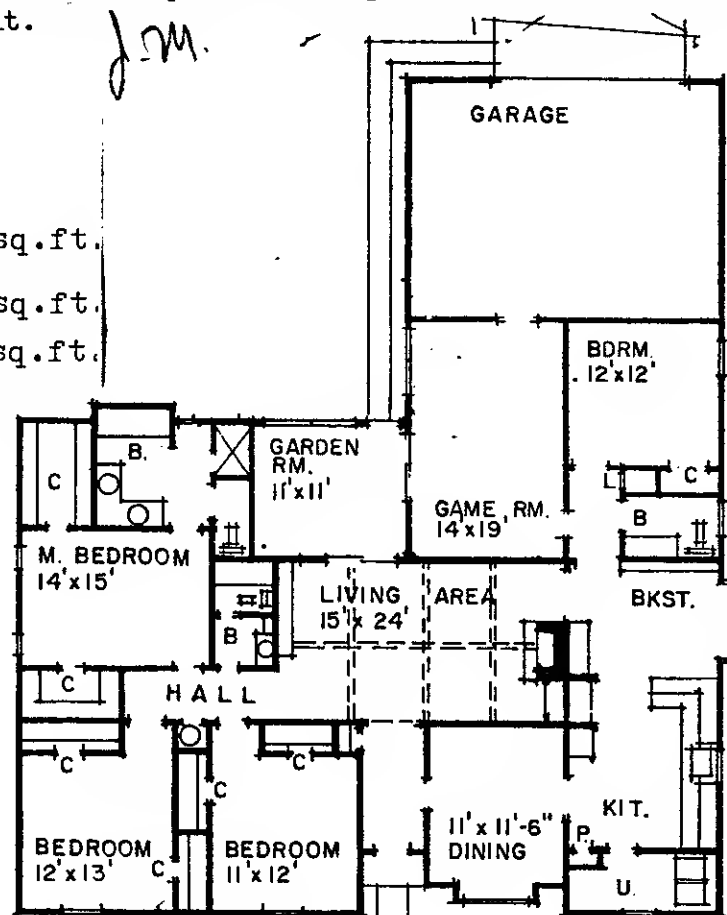
The next day was the highlight of the trip. That's when we saw STAR WARS. It only cost \$1.25 to get in there, while it has cost me \$3 here in town. But, I've commented on SW elsewhere, so I won't elaborate here. It was playing in Dallas' Northpark Mall (Doesn't every city have a 'Northpark Mall'?) which was straight down Hwy. 75 from the motel. That helped. Also, the roads are such there that it was possible to go all the way on the access road alone; it was as good as the Interstates themselves here, and I'm afraid I've been in these small towns (OKC only=650,000) so long that I don't feel all that comfortable anymore on your Dan-Ryan-class roads. (I'll write about impressions of Chicago sometime too, if I ever get motivated.) That's another reason we didn't go into the heart of downtown to the Kennedy memorial site and the like. After STAR WARS, we went across the mall to Nieman-Marcus to laugh at the price tags. In stationery, they had a Monopoly game in an artificial leather carrying case for \$42, for instance. I got off cheap, since we were almost out of folding money and had to watch it after that. Fortunately, Mastercharge will take care of almost everything else. She only bought some tiny little earrings for about \$11. Could have been bought here at TG&Y for \$1.79, but, she did get a box and bag that said "Nieman Marcus" on them... That night we ate at a place on 640 between 75 & I35 called "Daddy's Money". The decor was more down-to-earth, but the food, hard as it might seem, was probably a little better even than at Baby Doe's. I had some kind of braised-chicken-and-shrimp, as I recall, while this time Claudine played it safe with a steak. I stuck to Vodka Collins, while she ordered a Chi chi, both of which were good. Once again we went through two little loaves of bread with the meal--when its good, I'm always a sucker for stuffing myself. We'd ordered a second round of drinks too, which may be why I can't remember what we had for dessert, if anything. In Thailand, I could go 14-15 drinks a night before I had to put my head down, but now I have two and can feel a difference already when I stand up. Must be old age. Anyhow, we also checked out some new houses going up in north suburban Richardson, which is Claudine's favorite pasttime. The houses were just a tad too fancy for my tastes, although in size they were about right. The lots were too small for my preferences, but any 'lot' short of being an 'acreage' usually is now. The places were about \$26.50/sq foot, which isn't bad, but on the other hand, they ran

to something like 3100 square feet, too. That puts the price tag at about \$85,000. Now if we sold our place and could swing a \$650/month house payment, I figured we could have the one of our choice.... The last night in town was a waste, as Claudine tried everything possible to find a theater where OH GOD was playing, but without luck. Two places listed it in the paper, but didn't have it when we called; one of those was almost in Fort Worth. So, next morning we packed up, ate at the attached restaurant (I suggest the McDonalds across the street instead, should anyone follow in our footsteps) and left. The only good thing at the end of the visit was listening to the chatter between a "couple" at the booth behind us, and the weather there, which was milder than it was here at that time. / Well, I started this as a filler piece, but I'm such a windbag that it's gone to a third page, so I won't carry on much longer. Maybe just run a houseplan we brought back to finish off the page. Don't let your wives see it.

J.M.

HEATED AREA-2535 sq.ft.
Garage - 537 sq.ft.
TOTAL - 3092 sq.ft.

PRICE 84,900



(115 STRATFORD
Four Bedrooms, 2 1/2 Baths, 2 car Garage
plus Work Shop Area, large Family Room -Dining room,
Breakfast room and an abundance of closets -
location - J.J. Pierce and close to Richardson
Schools, Amenities include - Fireplace, Wet Bar-
Leaded glass windows - Garden room for the plant
lover and extra insulation pkg. to reduce
utilities.

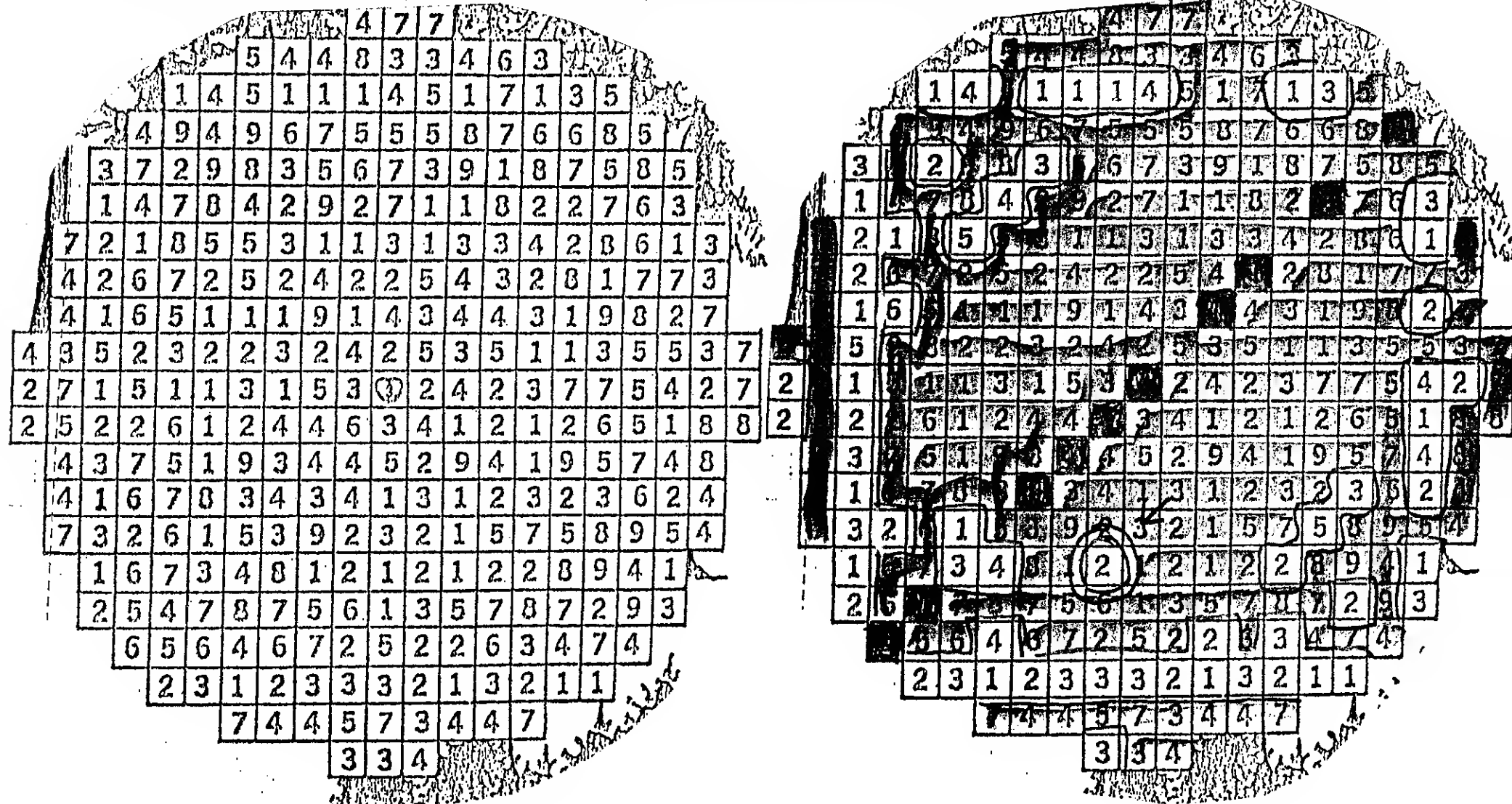
GOLOKEY HOMES
OF DALLAS
CUSTOM HOME BUILDERS

WILLIAM S. HUMPHREYS
REGISTERED PROFESSIONAL HOME BUILDER
722-8269 / 690-3017

ANSWER TO THE EXTENDED PUZZLE

(This page contributed by David Scott,)
 1027 Ninth St., #51, Albany, CA 94710

Attached below is a copy of the Klondike puzzle. The darkened squares along the LL-UR axis are the solution given last month. The white squares are the other ways of getting out in a couple of moves or less. There is no way to get from a colored square to either a white or axis square. The one exception is the "2" in the double box. Assuming this is a mistake, what number should it be? Only one works.



The little ditty below was sent in by an inlaw from whom I requested a written copy after hearing an oral presentation. It presents something of a hint at the resentment being felt by the folks out in the sticks, as well as provides me with some filler. The surprising thing is that it's from a normally Democratic hotbed...

JM

Jimmy Carter is my shepherd. I shall not want.
He leadeth me beside the still waters &
abandoned farms. He restoreth my doubt
about the democratic party. He anointeth my
wages with taxes and inflation so my
expenses runneth over my income. Surely
poverty & hard living shall follow the democratic
party, & I shall work on a rented farm
& dwell in a rented house forever.

5000 years ago, Moses said pack up your camel,
pick up your shovel, move your ass, & I will
lead you to the promised land.

5000 years later, FDR said lay down your
shovel, sit on your ass, & light up a camel.
this is the promised land.

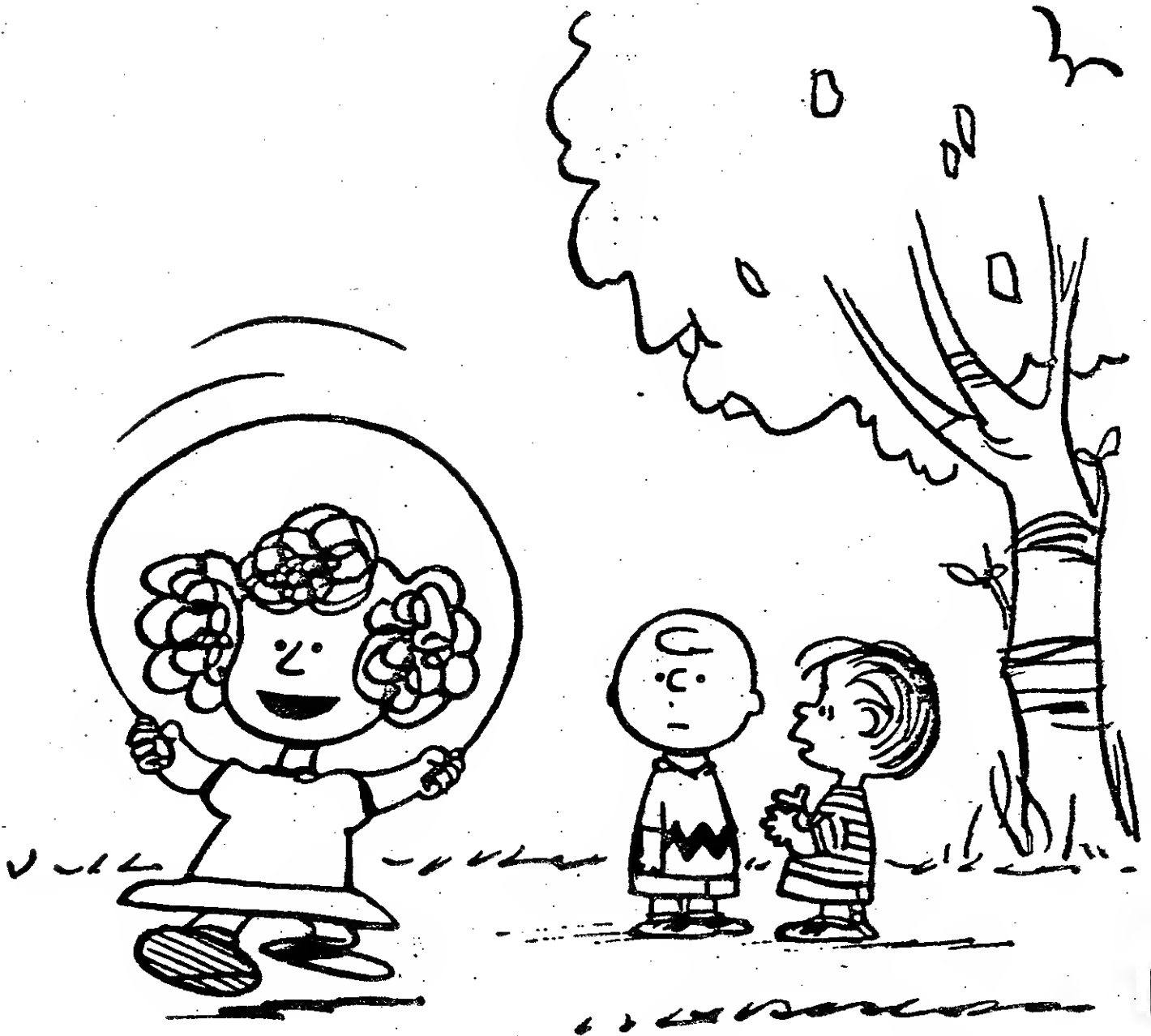
This year, Jimmy Carter will take your
shovel, sell your camel, kick your ass, &
tell you he gave away the promised land.

I'm glad I'm an American.

I'm glad that I'm free.

I wish I was a dog,

& Jimmy Carter was a peanut tree.



**HOW CAN SHE SKIP ROPE WHEN THE WORLD
IS IN SUCH TURMOIL?**

RANDOM NOTES

TONY WATSON must have had a real laugh reading my comments on STAR WARS last issue. Everything I had questioned and "discovered", plus a lot more, was covered in his own review of the movie & book(s) & record late last summer! Naturally, I discovered this fact the day I mailed all of last issue. A couple of things I have since learned: the wookie whom I'd thought was called "Julian" wasn't 'Julian', but rather, 'chewy' was Solo's term for it, short for Chewbacca. That term is used ONCE, fleetingly, by Ben in the bar scene; all other instances are 'chewy', which sounded to me like 'Julian'. The other point is Luke's home planet. From the movie, it is NEVER named; in the book and on the trading cards, it is called Tatooine. Now, 'Tatooine' sounds sort of like 'Dantooey', which is what I understood Princess Leia to have given as the location of the (abandoned) rebel base in her abortive effort to save Alderon. (From the movie, the real base is on a moon of Yanin). Now, is "Dantooey" really 'Tatooine', putting the abandoned base site on Luke's planet by chance, or are the two quite separate? And, 'Julian' would have been better than 'Chewbacca' anyhow. *Jm.*

REVENGE struck this last weekend, as your glorious GM at last managed to win a couple of AFRICAN CAMPAIGN games from ol' Bill Shaffer, my first wargames in quite a while. In the first game, Fluff's Axis forces weren't doing too badly until a 2/1 attack near El Adem came up 2, "2 AR 0"; that and the resulting counterattack wiped out Ariete and an Italian 3-4 class infantry division, permitting the Allies to stand toe to toe with the Krauts and slug it out. If the Allies can do that in early-mid 41, Rommel can hang it up. He did. In the second game, my Axis forces were bottled up and held generally along a line of Benghasi-El Agheila until almost summer of 41. That was a month too long for the Allies to hang on way out there, though, and in some very bloody battles, the Allied line was gobbled up. His New Zealand 2d Infantry held on around Tobruk for a long time, but the upcoming withdrawals of four full strength divisions at the end of 41 would be impossible to meet, so the Tobruk perimeter threw in the towel. The end would have come much sooner, but the Axis casualties had been so high that there were barely enough units to hem in the Tobruk position after occupying the Allied home base at Alexandria a turn! So it goes.

PUZZLE RESULTS to the little one I ran last issue: 8,5,4,9,1; 7 6 3 2 0. Formula: The numbers are in alphabetical order.

MAGAZINES for sale are now gone. the The RAPHA game is still available for \$3, as are the blank troop counters. Anyone interested, write the publisher.

PHONE CALLS are still out. I doubt Shaffer is gaining anything, and the potential hassles are too great. If you want to call AFTER deadline day and find out results, or just BS a while or whatever, fine, but orders should be mailed in. "The simplest solution is the best". Or at least the easiest. Anyone wishing to send in a # for ME to call in case of troubles not your responsibility is urged to send in a # to be reached at. Numbers are on file for about four of you; anyone else care to send one in, "just in case"?

WITH SUMMER HERE, how about a

RECIPE FOR PRESERVING CHILDREN

1 large grassy field	1 narrow pebbly brook
6 children (assorted)	1 hot sun
3 small dogs	flowers--deep blue sky

Mix the children with dogs and empty into the field, stirring continuously. Sprinkle the field with flowers. Pour the brook gently over the pebbles. Cover all with a deep blue sky and bake in the hot sun. When children are well browned they may be removed. They will be found ready to be set away to cool in the bath tub.

((I think I got one of these myself, but forgot to process it for SB ~~copy~~. This copy is from Craig Reges' AGAINST THE ODDS #6 just received.)) J.M.



STRATEGY AND FANTASY WORLD

VALLEY FORGE SHOPPING CENTER
KING OF PRUSSIA, PA. 19406
(215) 265-8562

Dear GM/Publisher,

Are you aware that there is a major convention & Diplomacy tournament on the east coast this year? I'm talking about PENN-CON in Chester, PA. (Near Philadelphia). With Origins in Detroit, and Dipcon in LA, we offer an alternative to eastern Dippy players.

Formerly called Phil-Con, our convention has been around for many years. In the past, we were mostly a miniatures event, but expanded last year to include boardgaming. Due to the success of last years tournaments, we are sure that this year will be even better.

We have high hopes for the Diplomacy tournament, but your help is needed. A small plug in your zine will be greatly appreciated.

The gamemaster for the tournament will be John Boyer. Most of you out there know of John, and his fine reputation in the Dippy community. John is currently playing in the demo game in Diplomacy World.

Further information will be sent out in late April, but I'm sending this now to give you enough time to fit a plug into a future issue of your zine.

Place: Weidner College, Chester, PA.

Dates: June 23, 24, 25, 1978

Sponser: Strategy & Fantasy World

Fees: Diptourny, probably \$2, plus entrance fee to the con. If you wish to preregister for the Diplomacy tournament, send your name and address to S&FW at the above address. Do not send fees now, you will be sent a later mailing about these.

Gratefully Yours,

Lee A. Kendter

Here's a just-in letter from TONY WATSON, 201 Minnesota St, Las Vegas, NV 89107:

Star Wars stuff: I'm not an expert on Star Wars if being an expert includes buying and reading all the junk journalism that has cropped up in light of the popularity of SW/Close Encounters. I have read the novel and I have seen the movie a modest 13½ times (half price university student tickets have helped). "Who or what is Chewbacca"? Chewbacca is the Wookiee, the shaggy 7 foot co-pilot of the 'Falcon'. I have never in anything I have ever read or seen heard him referred to as "Julian". The instances you cite are times when Solo calls him "Chewy". As for Julian, maybe there is a special version in Okie or sumpin'...Tatooine is the Arrakis-like planet Luke lives on (as a moisture farmer I believe, accounting for the mention of "Vaporators" in the script). It is not, as you point out, mentioned in the film script (I gleaned it from the book). "Dantooine" is mentioned however, being the location of the Rebel base before they split for the moon of Yavin. Princess Leia is the source of this info, in the scene where Moff Tarkin orders the destruction of Alderaan. Again in reference to Luke's planet; the two cities mentioned are Anchorhead and Mos not Los Eisley. Han (yes that is his first name) Solo is referred to in the book (not the film) as a Corellian pirate, presumably from a planet called Corell or circling a star by that name. You correctly (at least my memory jives with yours) point out that that adjective is applied only to the cantina where he compares Corellian ships to "bulk cruisers". The novel says "I've outrun Imperial starships and Corellian cruisers." Once again I go with a nationality usage than a class or model. Corell probably turns out the galactic equivalent to Porsches. Jawas of course, are the little junk collectors that nab R2 and 3PO early in the film. As an aside, the novel also refers to the Sandpeople as Tusken Raiders, a name ignored in the movie. I would probably have to see OKC copy of the film to tell you if there was any break in the scene you mentioned on the last page of BB. Wanna spring for a round trip ticket? No, didn't think so.

More on filler: I read most of the ~~junk~~ material in BB though I often skip the article reprints from magazines (non-Dipzines I mean). Stuff like bureaucratic blunders is too depressing. Your "notes" are chatty and I like that. The way I see a Dipzine, or a good Dipzine I should say, is probably pretty similar to yours. The games are the skeleton, the barest minimum. Filler, artwork, and articles are the fleshing and rounding out. 'zines with just games are fine by me but if I'm not playing why trade/sub? To Collect paper from various parts of the country? I'll have to refine what I said about readers a little bit. Spacelanes appears to be fairly popular. More than one subber does so because of it and the games come in second. Don Horton says it is a popular addition to C&F and two other publishers are now reprinting it.

P.P.S. I met Al White. He doesn't look like your cover; He doesn't wear a hat.

ONE PAGE IS ENOUGH, NO?

late
Ray

PS @ 2 my reprint
your Star Wars
questions

Another last minute LETTER:

RICK KASSEL, 984 Erie St Rd, Macedon, NY 14502

I have not seen Star Wars yet but I did read the book. In answer to your question, the captain of the Millennium Falcon was Han Solo, a Corellian pirate. Also you are right about how Darth Vader's fighter ends up out of control. In the book Solo causes the destruction of Vader's wingman. In the process the fins of the wingman's ship intersect with Vader's ship. This causes Vader's ship to spin out of control into deep space BUT NOT DESTROYED. He should be back in the upcoming sequel.

Since everyone else seems to be giving you the weather picture for their area I may as well too. Summer is definately the nicest time around here. The bird is singing and the sun shines an average of three days a week. Temperatures soar to the mid eighties on these days but otherwise hover around 60. Rain, or rather drizzle, is a common occurance but most people live on high ground so flood damage is kept to a minimum. Those living in low lands live in mobile homes built on rafts instead of cement blocks. Makes it easier to get them back into their own yard that way.

Fall is the season of spectacular color change. The grass turns from deep green to puke brown. Trees loose their leaves and houses their shingles to the howling winds. Of course those living in the low lands avoid the wind but as stated they have other problems.

Winter is our longest season. Those that can afford it join the sun and go South for this period. They really got fooled last December however. We set a new record for most days of sunshine for the month - three. It made headlines in all the local papers. Temperatures consistantly range between minus 10 and 55 degrees F during Winter. This coupled with our 100 + inches of snow each year create an ideal climate for virus and pneumonia to breed in. Hospitals are big vacation spots during Winter.

Spring is when the grass starts its change back to green. Snow gives way to what seems like constant rain again. Temperatures no longer drop below 25 F but rarely achieve summer highs. It basically is a time to stay inside and watch your gardens rot.

If you're planning a trip through here and want to arrive to take advantage of a particular season our calendar is as follows: Spring - April 16 thru August 12; Summer - August 13 thru 19; Fall - August 20 thru October 15; Winter - October 16 thru April 15.

Today is Easter Sunday and as such it is still Winter here. The weather outside is the same as it's been every Easter since 1967 - alternating between snow and freezing rain, temperature 32 F.

Taking everything into consideration it's not too bad a place to live in. At least that's what I keep trying to tell myself.

((I used to go with a girl in upstate New York--around Rochester--and I know that winter weather really is impressive. The north side of the Mohawk valley catches every storm rolling eastward across the continent's face, it seemed. How about hearing from some of our Las Vegas folks for some contrasts?))

J.M.

PS. 82° here in OKC today, same due tomorrow again. Wife planting rose bushes. It was 72° at 745 last night, e.g.

ERIC KIRCHNER I'd like to comment on your piece on junk mail. First, you seem to hate all junk mail just because you get it. Well, I don't mind the stuff. On occasion they even sell me something, but most go in the trash unopened. Does it hurt me? No. They are not "trying to screw you on some deal". They are doing a common capitalist thing called "advertising". If it is "crud", who loses? They do. But, you object, they are mailing at 1.7¢ and we are subsidizing it. You're right there, the postal rate structures are rather messed up. But what are you objecting to, the junk mail itself, or the rate structure that lets it be mailed so cheaply? I do not object to the junk mail. If someone wants to try to sell me something by mail, fine. I do object to 1.7¢ mailings. So, I'm taking your suggestion and mailing all sorts of things in business reply envelopes! I even sent an insurance company a stick of Juicy Fruit to brighten someone's day.

I agree with you for the most part, but don't condemn junk mail in itself, but just the rate structure that encourages it to the point of ridiculousness. By the way, I notice that my 13¢ first class letters also subsidize your "printed matter" discounts for sending BRUTUS BULLETIN... By the way, the USPS actually made a profit last year. ((P O Box 4076, USAFA, CO 80841))

((Does a prostitute walking down the street outside of base with her ass sticking out hurt you? She's just doing a capitalist thing called advertising. If it is crud, who loses? "But that's different," you might respond. Well, the only difference I can see is that SHE charges more than 1.7¢! I'm glad to hear you're putting the reply envelopes to use, however. Yes, your 13¢ also subsidizes BBs mailing. If junk mail had to pay its way, I'd have to pay the full first class rate for this. If junk mail paid its way, the full cost of BB first class would probably be 9¢, too. Since most zines break even at the point of 1¢ per printed page plus postage, (Dipzines, i.e.), I'll leave it to you and the readership to determine what effect an honest rate structure would have. Can you imagine CLAW & FANG at \$2.16¢*a year? One of the main reasons stated when the USPS announced their "profit" was a reversal of the previous trend of declining first class volume. Could some of that be due to my suggestion being followed? Would it help? Apparently so.))

Jm

CRAIG REGES wrote some bits and pieces I need to comment on, arriving in a couple of different letters. First, in regard to junk mail vs. magazines, he said that the folding of the likes of Life, Look, etc., seemed to show that such publications are already at or over the rates they can bear. In this regard, I have to disagree. Those zines folded not because they had to contribute a little more to the loss that the Post Office was delivering them at, but rather, because people just weren't interested enough in them to pay and subscribe, compared to the greatly increased publishing costs. If S&T can go for \$14 a year despite its content being, well, what it is, any magazine people want will survive. It's just that postage is a visible excuse, while excess "executives" and their costs are both 'invisible' and embarrassing to the organization. It's like asking Congress to cut down on Congressional waste: good luck... On another topic, Game 3: Yes, I'd meant to run a player list, but it got squeezed out, so I thought I'd wait until I had a game year to report. BRUTUS 3 will make occasional appearances in these pages. I just haven't gotten to it yet. Thanks for these and your other comments.

Jm.

***** ***** ***** ***** ***** ***** *****
More bumper stickers seen:

TRAVEL AGENTS DO IT FOR FREE

DON'T ARGUE WITH YOUR WIFE; DICKER

IF GOD HAD MEANT FOR MAN TO BE IN THE ARMY, HE'D HAVE GIVEN US BAGGY GREEN SKINS

That's 1¢/page-side sent first class at 1970 rates, which were already "carrying" other classes.

Some odds and ends....

DUMB is the only way to express what it's like to find that you've sent your one last file copy of Issue 7* to someone who'd requested back issues. Does anyone out there have an old copy left that they'd care to send me to duplicate for my files? I'll reimburse your postage upon (prompt) return, of course.

in Calif →

CALIFORNIA is the hangout of quite a few of my almost-3-dozen recipients of this, so maybe you can help answer an inquiry I recieved from a friend who asked about some character he'd seen on the TOMORROW show. The character runs a mail-order Doctor-of-Divinity school as a tax dodge, yet which the state of Cal. recognizes! Anyhow, does anyone there (or anywhere else) know of his name or address or "church" or anything at all? Write me.

I WAS WRONG, I admit, when I predicted that the first dandelion crop here would have gone to seed by this deadline. It hasn't. CLOSE, true, but the fading blooms are still up there. They will by the time #3's fall deadline comes up next Monday, but not this time.

CRAIG REGES was BSing on the phone with me the other day after I'd informed him of the adjustment in KS, and he informed me that his AGAINST THE ODDS will be starting a "two-man Dip game between Curtis Gibson and Alan Rowland". Wow. In case you're so fortunate as to not have encountered either of these two, they are something else. Gibson is a 65 year old man who plays Dip as though it was a titanic struggle between the forces of Purity and Holy Righteousness (i.e., himself and other losers) on one side, and Powers of Darkness and Evil on the other. Rowland is a devil-may-care, outspoken boozier masquerading as an eastern Pennsylvanian college student and darn good Dip player, and publisher of WARMONGER. These two have been running each other down unmercifully in both Warmonger and elsewhere, something they're both good at. It should be something to see! ATO is available from Craig at 10/\$3.50, 16 W 761 White Pines Road, Bensenville, IL 60106. *-has regular openings*

TSR HOBBIES will have to wait some more before I can run another of their flyers as filler, I'm afraid. Coming down to the wire, I'll have a bloated issue even with only half the usual press this time.

DID I SAY THIS WAS A DULL TOWN answereing Steve Hueston's letter? Apparently some people think so. It's so dull that for amusement they set up a theft/fencing operation of massive proportions. The local cops et. al. are making something like 200 arrests for thefts of everything from trucks and boats to drugs and 50,000 lbs of potatoes! The paper says that 60% has been returned already to the owners due to lack of space to store it! "Small stuff" like TVs and the like, they hope to "get down to next week", per the Daily Oklahoman. Beats watching TV all evening, I guess.

BUREAUCRATIC BLUNDERS will return next issue. I thought I'd give you a break for a change. (Actually my 'store' is just gone.)

*#7 was the "Hazardous to your health" issue, I recall.